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SEP 0 5 2000

REMARKS

The Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this application in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

Claim Objections

The Examiner has objected to claims 1-17 and 20-28.

Applicants respectfully submit that the claims have been amended to overcome the objections.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 112

The Examiner has rejected claims 2-6, 8-9, 13-17, 20-21, 24 and 27-28 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph.

Applicants respectfully submit that the claims have been amended to overcome the rejections.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant notes with appreciation the Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter. The Examiner has indicated that claims 1-17 and 20-28 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the objections set forth in the Office Action. As mentioned above, these claims have been amended to overcome the objections and rejections. Accordingly, claims 1-17 and 20-28 are believed to be allowable.

New dependent claims 29-35 are believed to be allowable due to their dependency on one of independent claims 1, 20, or 25, as well as for the limitations set forth in each of these dependent claims.

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New independent claim 36 is believed to be allowable for reasons similar to those of independent claim 25. New dependent claims 37-38 are believed to be allowable due to their dependency on independent claim 36, as well as for the limitations set forth in each of these dependent claims.

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Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is believed that all claims now pending patentably define the subject invention over the prior art of record and are in condition for allowance. Applicants respectfully request that the rejections be withdrawn and the claims be allowed at the earliest possible date.

Request For Telephone Interview

The Examiner is invited to call Brent E. Vecchia at (303) 740-1980 if there remains any issue with allowance of the case.

Request For An Extension Of Time

The Applicants respectfully petition for an extension of time to respond to the outstanding Office Action pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) should one be necessary. Please charge our Deposit Account No. 02-2666 to cover the necessary fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17 for such an extension.

Charge Our Deposit Account

Please charge any shortage to our Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

Date: <u>4/5/06</u>

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